

REMARKS

35 USC § 102

Claims 1-7, 9, 10, and 12 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by applicant's admitted prior art described in the specification as filed between page 3, line 15 and page 4, line 26. The applicant disagrees as the cited portion of the specification fails to teach or suggest all the recitations of claim 1.

Claim 1 recites "A sublamination material, comprising: a conductive single layer reference plane having a top surface and a bottom surface; a conductive first signal layer coupled to the top surface with a cured core material, the first signal layer *having an exposed surface opposite a surface coupled to the reference plane*; a conductive second signal layer coupled to the bottom surface with a cured bond-ply material, the second signal layer *having an exposed surface opposite a surface coupled to the reference plane*; and at least one of a blind via or a micro via; wherein the reference plane, first signal layer, and second signal layer are three separate layers."

The Office points to reference plane 12 as being a single layer reference plane with layer 22 being coupled to layer 12 via material 30, and layer 24 coupled to it via material 30. However, material 30 only couples layers 14 and 24 to the surfaces of layer 12, not layer 24. Moreover, layers 14 and 24 do not have the exposed surfaces recited in claim 1. As such, the cited text does not anticipate claim 1 or any claim dependent on claim 1.

Moreover, claim 2 as amended recites "the material *consists essentially of* the two signal layers, the reference layer, the cured core material, the cured bond-ply, and the at least one via of claim 1", and "the material is not coupled to any other layers." The cited text does not teach such a sublamination material.

35 USC § 103

Claims 8 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over applicant's admitted prior art as applied to claims 1-7, 9, 10 and 12, and further in combination

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Art Unit: **2827**
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with Rostoker (US 5801432). Applicant disagrees at least because the rejected claims are dependent on allowable base claims.

ATTACHED MARKED-UP VERSION OF CHANGES

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE".

REQUEST FOR ALLOWANCE

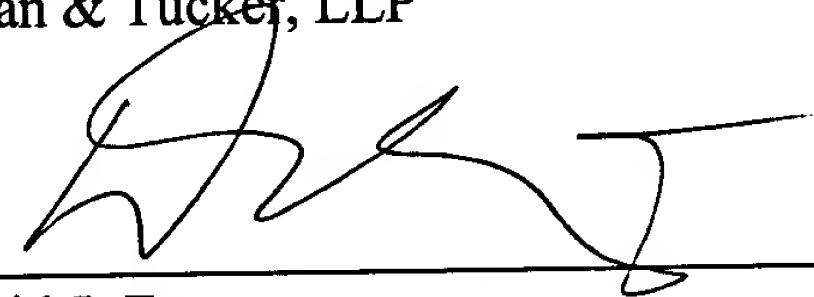
Claims 1-12 are pending in this application. The applicant requests allowance of all pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

Rutan & Tucker, LLP

Dated: January 9, 2003

By:



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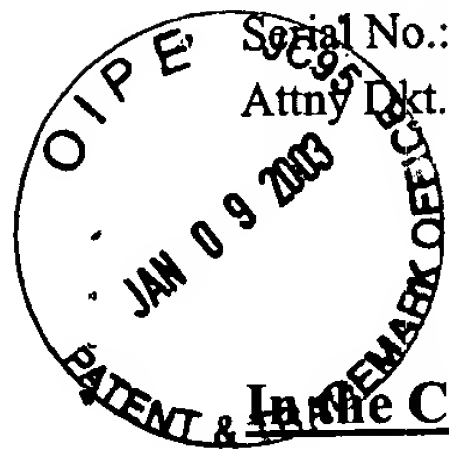
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VERSIONS WITH MARKING TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims

2. The sublamination material of claim 1, wherein the ~~reference plane comprises a~~
~~conductive material~~ material consists essentially of the two signal layers, the reference
layer, the cured core material, the cured bond-ply, and the at least one via, and wherein
the material is not coupled to any other layers.